

From: Ernest Lehmann [ernie265@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, November 19, 2007 12:31 PM

To: Darton, Terry

Cc: Ernest Lehmann

Subject: comments on the Mirant Plant comprehensive operating permit

Dear Mr. Dalton,

Pasted and attached are my comments on the comprehensive operating permit currently under consideration for the Potomac River Generating Station commonly known as the Mirant plant. I urge you and the DEQ to adopt these recommendations,

Sincerely,

Ernest Lehmann
Citizen of Alexandria

Good Evening, my name is Ernest Lehmann and I am a resident of Alexandria. My residence is approximately ½ a mile due south of the Mirant Plant. Thank you for holding this hearing in Alexandria. It shows that DEQ is encouraging comments from the citizens.

In contrast to this I must say the draft State Comprehensive Operating Permit presented by the DEQ staff is a severe disappointment and discouraging. It certainly does not show an understanding or an appreciation for the situation which brings us all here. In fact it flies in the face of the current actions in America as well as internationally. Despite the reluctance of the Bush Administration to require stricter controls, overwhelmingly, the courts and regulatory agencies are requiring that stricter air pollution controls be put in place.

In the past 6 months the federal courts in California, Vermont and the Supreme Court rebuffed and invalidated the Bush Administration's attempts to allow more air pollution. Internationally the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a report today, 19 November 2007. Rajendra Pachauri, a distinguished international scientist and economist who heads the IPCC said, "If there's no action before 2012, that's too late. What we do in the next two or three years will determine our future. This is the defining moment." And right here in Alexandria the US Department of Energy issued a report in 2006 which stated that within a radius of 3.3 miles from the Mirant plant an additional 17 people will die this year as the result of its emissions. Clearly all the controls placed on this plant's emissions will have a positive effect, locally, regionally,

nationally and globally.

Much, much more must be done to reduce the emissions and the pollutants that this plant produces than what this permit requires. In general, the best available technology (BAT) must be put in place, modeling must be performed and limits set that are directly applicable to the individual pollutants, the criteria pollutants as well as mercury and carbon dioxide. NAAQS standards must be met and continuous emission monitors (CEMs) must be installed immediately and real time readings made available on the internet. PM_{2.5} emission limits must be set at a much lower level and bag houses must be employed.

I fully endorse all of the recommendations made by the City of Alexandria in its submission.

Requiring less than this in this permit would be grossly irresponsible and certainly deleterious to the public health.

Ernest Lehmann

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